

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 DOE-15  
SOE-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 /097 W  
-----104459 151431Z /46

R 151203Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1205  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY NASSAU  
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4014

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, JM  
SUBJECT: FURTHER CABINET SHUFFLE

REF: KINGSTON 3799

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER  
MICHAEL MANLEY ANNOUNCED FURTHER CHANGES IN HIS CABINET ON MAY 11.  
THE MOST IMPORTANT BROUGHT SENATOR CARL RATTRAY TO THE  
EDUCATION MINISTRY. THE OTHER CHANGES REMOVED VARIOUS FUNCTIONS  
FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE TO OTHER MINISTRIES. END  
OF SUMMARY.

2. THE JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT HAS UNDERGONE A FURTHER RE-  
SHUFFLING. ON MAY 11, PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY ANNOUNCED  
THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

-- SENATOR CARL RATTRAY HAS BECOME MINISTER OF EDUCATION;  
HE WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD THE JUSTICE PORTFOLIO FOR  
THE TIME BEING.

-- THE MINISTRY OF MOBILIZATION AND HUMAN  
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RESOURCED DEVELOPMENT HAS BECOME THE MINISTRY OF  
MOBILIZATION, INFORMATION AND CULTURE. IT IS  
HEADED BY THE PRIME MINISTER WITH ARNOLD BERTRAM  
AS MINISTER OF STATE.

-- THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS HAS BEEN  
EXPANDED TO INCLUDE THE MONITORING AND COMMUNITY  
PRODUCTION OF THE ERSTWHILE MOBILIZATION MINISTRY,

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER KEBLE MUNN WILL BE ASSISTED BY TWO MINISTERS OF STATE -- FRANCIS TULLOCH AND SIDNEY PAGON -- AND A PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY -- ROY MCGANN -- WHO WILL MONITOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. -- THE WOMEN'S BUREAU, HEADED BY MINISTER OF STATE CARMEN MACGREGOR, HAS BEEN MOVED FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE TO THE SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRY. -- THE JAMAL FOUNDATION (THE GOVERNMENT'S LITERACY ORGANIZATION) HAS BEEN MOVED FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. PAUL ROBERTSON WILL CONTINUE AS CHAIRMAN BUT WILL ALSO SERVE AS A SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRIME MINISTER, WORKING PRIMARILY ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE NEW MINISTRY OF MOBILIZATION, INFORMATION AND CULTURE. FURTHER CHANGES IN THE GOVERNMENT ARE EXPECTED BEFORE THE BUDGET DEBATE BEGINS ON JUNE 8. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. COMMENT: THE CHOICE OF RATTRAY AS EDUCATION MINISTER COMES AS A GREAT SURPRISE SINCE PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTER HOWARD COOKE WAS CLEARLY TIPPED TO ASSUME THE PORTFOLIO (UEE REFTEL). COOKE WOULD HAVE BROUGHT ENERGY, EXPERIENCE AND CLOUT TO THE MINISTRY; RATTRAY IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY LESS EFFECTIVE AND INFLUENTIAL. CONCEIVABLY, THE DECISION TO LEAVE COOKE AT THE PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTRY REFLECTS A RECOGNITION THAT HIS CONSIDERABLE TALENTS CAN BE BETTER USED IN AN EFFORT TO SPUR THE JAMAICAN BUREAU-CONFIDENTIAL

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CRACY TO GREATER EFFORT AND DEDICATION IF THE TERMS OF THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND ARE TO BE MET.

4. THE COMBINATION OF THE MOBILIZATION AND THE INFORMATION AND CULTURAL MINISTRIES SUGGESTS THAT THE ROLE OF THE NEW MINISTRY IS TO BE MORE HORTATORY IN CHARACTER THAN WAS THE OLD MINISTRY OF MOBILIZATION; UNDER DR. D. K. DUNCAN, THE MINISTRY SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME MEDDLING IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER MINISTRIES. MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE DEGREE TO WHICH BERTRAM AND ROBERTSON ARE INVOLVED IN THE NEW MINISTRY'S FUNCTIONING. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE AMALGAMATION WILL RESULT IN A FRESH EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM OF MICHAEL MANLEY.

5. THE REASONS FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE MONITORING AND COMMUNITY PRODUCTION DIVISION IN THE PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTRY IS NOT IMMEDIATELY CLEAR. HOWEVER, THE ACCOMPANYING PERSONNEL SHIFTS SUGGEST THAT THE EXPANDED MINISTRY IS A KIND OF LIMBO. IT BRINGS TOGETHER THE LIKEABLE BUT INEFFECTIVE MUNN WITH THE APPARENTLY EQUALLY INEFFECTIVE PAGON (HE WAS RARELY NOTICED WHILE SERVING AT THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE), THE RESTIVE FRANCIS TULLOCH AND THE SINISTER ROY  
MCGANN. MCGANN'S ASSIGNMENT MAY REFLECT A DESIRE TO GIVE  
THE HOME GUARD A BETTER NAME. WHILE UNDER HIS CONTROL,  
GKUVE SUSPICIONS AS TO THE MISSION OF THE HOME GUARD  
AROSE, AND MANY THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE THE BEGINNING OF A  
"PEOPLE'S MILITIA" (FOR EXAMPLE, SEE 77 KINGSTON 7409 AND  
A-96 OF DECEMBER 3, 1977).

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## Message Attributes

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